Express Mail Label No. EV441645752US PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Hermann Grether

PCT Application No.: PCT/EP2003/010727

Application No.: Not Yet Known

Filed: Not Yet Known

1104.

For: COMPONENT INCORPORATED IN A

PLUMBING SYSTEM

Group:

Not Yet Known

Examiner:

Not Yet Known

(PC 03 445 B)

December 23, 2004

SMB-PT121

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows: